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LETTER FROM WILLIAM.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SIMON R. ADAMS.

CENTRAL TEXAS, April 9, 1879.

EDITOR CLARION: I had no idea, when I

sent you the leaf from a schoolmaster's manuscript in the possession of Mr. Jones, sketching

imperfectly, the Rev. Edwin Pace, of Nacogdoches

county, that I had done anything to create

much feeling. I supposed that Mr. Pace

would prefer retirement, always dear to him

and that he be not unnecessarily advertised,

and was uneasy; but I met a man in Texas

who thanked me, and yesterday received a

letter from De Kalb, Mississippi, full of thanks

The sketch was published at the suggestion of

Mr. Jones, and was not intended to be a

man's and requests its publication. It

seems that our schoolmaster took notes as he

went along:

"At the spring term of the Circuit Court of

Kemper county, in the year 1854, held at De

Kalb, I met a man to whom afterwards I be-

came much attached, by reason of his kind

offices. This man was

HON. SIMON R. ADAMS,

editor of the Eastern Clarion a newspaper,

published in the town of Paulding, south of

Kemper county. I was introduced to him by

Judge Turner Beavis, of Gainesville, Alabama,

a gentleman, whose name I never call or hear

called, without the welling up of a feeling of

profound gratitude. Col. Adams, at the time

I met him, in the Bush of a growing

season. He had, from a small beginning and

no profits, built up a considerable income, and

his country increased with each and every

manifestation of prosperity. I afterwards

learned that he was a native of Vermont, but

grew to manhood in the State of Ohio. His

parents were poor, and at an early age, he

was placed in a printing office, to learn what

was then known of the art of printing. Hav-

ing finished his apprenticeship, he came to his

brothers, William and Joseph, left Ohio and went

to New Orleans. Here Joseph died, and Simon

went to Mississippi. He worked in one or

two offices with acceptability, and read and

learned, by absorption, very much of current

information. Finally, he made the acquaintance

of Hon. Albert G. Brown, in the year

1854, at which time he was editor of the

Mississippi, and conceived a great partiality

for young Adams, and saw in him many of

those qualities, which were subsequently

developed. At that time ex-Gov. John J.

McRae was publishing at Paulding the

Eastern Clarion and Paulding Palladium, rather

a formidable name, but a very small paper.

Adams was at work on the paper. McRae

offered to sell to Adams, for a second time, and

Adams, who was then a student, declined.

In 1858, Governor

Brown went to Paulding and became surety

for Adams, on a note that purchased the

paper, and the latter became Editor and

Proprietor of the Eastern Clarion, dropping

one-half the name. At the same time, he was

Editor, Foreman, Pressman, and Devil, and

did not out nothing that came to his hand.

It was a cruel fate, for he continued this only a

few months, for he saw that the business to

pay, must be enlarged. So soon, therefore, as

he got a little ready cash, he secured a good

printer and started out for subscribers, advertisements,

and job work, and there being no other

office in all the region roundabout, he

secured a large list of subscribers, and not a

little later, he was making, in the way of

pamphlets, etc. He enlarged his force and increased his office

gradually. Fortunately for him, he fell in

love with Miss Isabella Bowman of Paulding,

and they were married. Then when he went

off, to look up business, his good wife would

trim and stitch pamphlets, and fold and direct

papers, and do all those things, until mid-

night almost nightly. He continued to do this

until the death of Col. Adams to attend

Circuit Court in all the counties he could

reach; and he was on one of those trips, when

I met him. He was very well dressed, and

one thing I noticed particularly; he wore a

massive, gold chain around his neck, and

carried a cane with a gold head. He had on a

velvet vest of brownish color, with spots,

a light-colored shirt, and a dark necktie.

He was a man of fine figure, and in the

middle of the thirties, his hair was striking.

Being a poor schoolmaster, with a ten dollar

salary, he was, in the eyes of the world, a

man of small means, but he was in a

condition to appreciate magnificence.

His manner, when I was first presented, was

rather patronizing. His size and general

make, did not contribute much to overawe.

In person he was of medium height, and not

a great, large man with a vast, old field

body. His face was expressive. One eye lid

seemed to be swollen always, which caused the

left eye to appear smaller than the other.

His forehead was rather low, not remarkably

so, and he wore his hair, which he had an

abundant, rather long. A few months after

my first meeting with him, he was with me

and, with his collar open, walked up and

began to curse the Colonel. The latter tried

to explain, when the large man struck him

and knocked the Colonel to his knees. They

were promptly separated, and the Colonel ap-

proached me and said, "What you saw is one

of the fruits of editing a spirited and fearless

paper. That fellow published a letter about

the Democratic party. When he came up,

I was just going to advise you to advertise

your school in